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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	10/653,791
Filing Date	September 2, 2003
First Named Inventor	Akio Ohba
Art Unit	2671
Examiner Name	Zimmerman, Mark K.
Attorney Docket Number	81617 [SC-70003US]

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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PTO/SB/O8A and PTO/SB/O8B in duplicate, 4 Cited References, including a copy of PCT International Search Report, and Return Receipt Postcard. |
|--|---|--|

Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Richard E. Wawrzyniak, Esq. (Reg. No. 36,048) Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery
Signature	
Date	August 10, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IPW

Docket No. 81617 [SC-70003US]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Akio Ohba
Application No.: 10/653,791
Filed: September 2, 2003
For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS
Group Art Unit: 2671
Examiner: Zimmerman, Mark K.

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August 10, 2004
Date

Sara R. Hart
Sara R. Hart

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

X Under 37 CFR §1.97(b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

 Under 37 CFR §1.97(c) together with either:

 a statement under 37 CFR §1.97(e), or

 a fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p)

(after the 37 CFR §1.97(b) time period, but before the mailing date of a final Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution).

IDS

Application No. 10/653,791

- ____ Under 37 CFR §1.97(d) together with either:
- ____ a statement under 37 CFR §1.97(e), and
 - ____ a fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) (Fee Transmittal included herewith)
(after the 37 CFR §1.97(c) time period, but on or before the payment of
the issue fee).

____ Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1): The undersigned states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 CFR § 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all patents, publications, applications and other information known by Applicants or Applicants' representative that may be material to the examination of the subject application, Applicants' representative hereby provides this Information Disclosure Statement that is prepared in accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97-1.98 and includes Form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B with four (4) references listed as items AA-AD.

Copies of the items listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are enclosed.

Concise Explanation of Relevance

Item AB listed on the Form PTO/SB/08A is not in the English language.

A concise explanation of the relevance of items AA-AC are in the form of a copy of a "International Search Report" mailed April 16, 2004, issued over the corresponding Japanese Patent Application, that was mailed from a foreign patent office and issued in a counterpart foreign application, which refers to the references. The "International Search Report" mailed April 16, 2004, which is in the English language, is listed as item AD and a copy is included herewith.

IDS

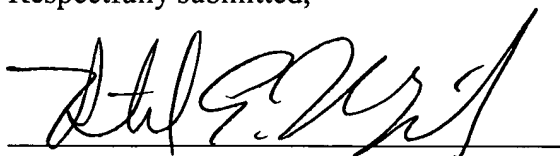
Application No. 10/653,791

In addition, item AB includes an English-language Abstract.

It is requested that the information provided herein be made of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/10/04

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard E. Wawrzyniak', written over a horizontal line.

Richard E. Wawrzyniak

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 36,048

Address all Correspondence to:

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

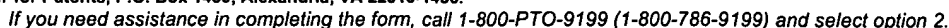
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/653,791
				Filing Date	September 2, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Akio Ohba
				Art Unit	2671
				Examiner Name	Zimmerman, Mark K.
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	81617 [SC-70003US]

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	AC	KWAN- LIU MA et al., "A Data Distributed, Parallel Algorithm for Ray-Traced Volume Rendering", Parallel Rendering Symposium, 1993 San Jose, CA, USA, 25-26 October 1993, New York NY, USA, IEEE, October 25, 1993, pages 15-22, XP010222611, ISBN: 0-8186-4920-8.	
	AD	PATENT COOPERATION TREATY, "International Search Report", dated April 16, 2004, for corresponding international patent application No. PCT/JP 03/11005, 4 pages.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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